

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 OES-07 ACDA-07 NEAE-00 SSO-00
CIAE-00 INR-07 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07
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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2798
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 7135

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: TECH, MNUC, PK, US
SUBJECT: VISIT OF DR. NYE

REF: STATE 161138, ISLAMABAD 7068

1. STATE REFTEL CROSSED WITH OUR MESSAGE WHICH RECOMMENDED THAT NYE BLOCK OUT SOME TIME DURING HIS STAY IN DELHI TO SEE OUR DCM. WE WELCOME POSSIBILITY OF A NYE VISIT TO PAKISTAN AND WOULD FIND IT VERY USEFUL TO MEET WITH HIM AND TO DISCUSS OUR NON-PROLIFERATION CONCERNS.

2. WE HAD ORIGINALLY HESITATED TO SUGGEST NYE VISIT ISLAMABAD FOR TWO REASONS. WE WANTED TO AVOID PUBLIC IMPRESSION THAT SOON AFTER THE NEW MILITARY GOVERNMENT IS IN OFFICE WE ARE EXERTING PRESSURE ON ZIA TO CHANGE HIS REPROCESSING PLANS. SUCH AN INTERPRETATION WOULD ONLY HARDEN THE GOP'S POSITION. ALSO, THE VISIT WOULD HAVE TO BE CAREFULLY HANDLED SO IT COULD NOT EASILY BE USED BY POLITICAL PARTIES, ESPECIALLY THE PPP, DURING THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN AS A MEANS OF CRITICIZING THE US FOR INTERFERING IN PAKISTANI AFFAIRS.

3. WE THINK BOTH THESE ISSUES CAN BE MANAGED, HOWEVER, AND
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RECOMMEND NYE FOLLOW THROUGH ON HIS PLANS TO VISIT. WE WOULD INFORM THE GOP HE WAS COMING TO PAKISTAN, BUT DESCRIBE THE VISIT AS A STOPOVER ON THE WAY FROM PARIS TO DELHI. WE WOULD ALSO SAY NYE WILL HAVE IN-HOUSE DISCUSSIONS WITH THE EMBASSY ON OUR GENERAL NUCLEAR POLICY. AT THE SAME TIME, WE WOULD ADD NYE WOULD BE PLEASED TO HOLD INFORMAL TALKS WITH THE GOP IF IT SO WISHED.

4. WE WOULD TELL THE GOP THAT NYE IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS WITH PAK OFFICIALS VARIOUS ISSUES INCLUDING THE SUPPLIERS' MEETING IN PARIS, OUR PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL FUEL CYCLE EVALUATION, OUR GENERAL APPROACH TO THE DISCUSSIONS WITH INDIA AND OTHER MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST IN THE NON-PROLIFERATION FIELD.

5. IF THE GOP WISHES TO MEET WITH NYE, HE SHOULD, OF COURSE, GO ON RECORD REITERATING OUR OPPOSITION TO THE REPROCESSING PLANT PURCHASE. BARRING UNFORESEEN CHANGES, WE DO NOT THINK IT WOULD BE PRODUCTIVE, NOR WOULD THE PAKS BE WILLING, TO HAVE SUBSTANT-IVEN, IN-DEPTH DISCUSSIONS ON THE PLNT AND ON THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE SYMINGTON AMENDMENT. IF THE GOP EXPRESSED AN INTEREST IN MEETING NYE, HOWEVER, IT COULD BENEFIT FROM A CANDID EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON BROADER NUCLEAR MATTERS.

6. WE WOULD APPRECIATE AN OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR FROM NYE DIRECTLY WASHINGTON'S POSITION ON MATTERS THAT CONCERN US AND AFFECT US/PAK RELATIONS. WE WOULD ALSO PLANT TO OUTLINE FOR HIM SOME OF THE CONCERNS WE HAVE ON REPROCESSING AS SEEN FROM OUR OWN PERSPECTIVE.

7. WE LOOK FORWARD TO RECEIVING DEFINITE WORD ON NYE'S ITINERARY AND DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS ON HANDLING THE VISIT WITH THE GOP.
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